

Garrett



A GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY OF THE METHODIST CHURCH
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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 18, 1961

Mr. Stanley S. Kresge
The Kresge Foundation
2727 Second Boulevard
Detroit 32, Michigan

Dear Stan:

You have no idea how much of a lift it gave me to have an opportunity to visit with you and Dorothy at Albion. I only wish I could have caught a later plane, so that we might have spent even more time together. There are some persons who tend to feed one's soul and mind immediately upon contact, and you folks are such for me. It is as though we had always known each other and shared a kinship.

For this reason, I have been more than a little disturbed about my conversation with you concerning Sunday activity in shopping centers around the Chicago area. I am afraid I approached it rather blunderingly, for I did assume you were unaware of it.

The matter came to me as a severe jolt and the truth of it is I would have lost a lot of money had I been a gambling man. This is a serious matter, because, as I see it, it strikes at the fundamental principle upon which our country is founded. When at last the secular forces drive us into the denial of those truths to which we have held, and which have held to us throughout the centuries, then we have reached the last stages of deterioration, both social and spiritual.

I remember my old granddad so well as a man of tremendous fortitude and stature. He pioneered in the Middle West when the Indians were still roving the plains; refused to homestead a farm because he wanted to buy what he owned. Books could be written about his life.